

REMARKS**I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 38-85 are pending in the application.

It should be noted that pending Claims numbers 38-46 were originally filed as claim numbers 117-125 by the Applicant, but have been renumbered by the Examiner as Claims numbers 38-46.

Claims 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 80 and 81 are independent claims.

Claims 38 - 42 (originally filed 117 - 121, respectively) stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(2).

Claims 43-46 (originally filed 122-125, respectively) have been indicated by the Examiner as allowable subject matter.

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 38, 40, 41 and 42 have been currently amended herein. It is believed that the amendments do not involve the addition of any new matter.

Claims 47-74 have been added as new claims and it is believed that the amendments do not involve the addition of any new matter wherein support can be found throughout the Specification. Moreover, please refer to priority U.S. Patent No. 6,688,123 B2 at claims 2-29.

Claims 75-78 have been added as new claims and it is believed that the amendments do not involve the addition of any new matter wherein support can be found throughout the Specification. Moreover, please refer to priority U.S. Patent No. 6,688,123 B2 at claims 32-35.

Claim 79 has been added as a new claim and it is believed that the amendment does not involve the addition of any new matter wherein support can be found throughout the Specification. Moreover, please refer to priority U.S. Patent No. 6,688,123 B2 at claim 38.

Claims 80-85 have been added as new claims and it is believed that the amendments do not involve the addition of any new matter wherein support can be found throughout the Specification. Moreover, please refer to claims 42-46 and 79 of the subject application.

III. CLAIMS 38-42 (ORIGINALLY FILED AS 117-121, RESPECTIVELY) ARE DEFINITE WITH THE MEANING OF 35 U.S.C. 112(2) IN VIEW OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS AND BECAUSE THE CLAIMS APPRISE THOSE SKILLED IN THE ART OF THE SCOPE OF THE INVENTION.

Claims 38-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Office Action states:

The phrase, "and/or" for claims 117, 119, 120, 121 render the claims 117-121 indefinite.

(See Office Action, page 2)

Applicants have amended claims as suggested by the Examiner. These amendments were not made for the purpose of narrowing the scope of the claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's rejections of claims 38-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 112(2) be withdrawn.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1-85 are in condition for allowance, and a notice for allowance is solicited. Should questions arise during examination, the Examiner is welcome to contact the Applicants' attorney at the telephone listed below.

Please charge any excess fees due and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0423.

Respectfully submitted,



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